

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 75, 104, 125, and 144. A complete copy of the claims including marked-up versions of each claim which is amended in this Amendment appears below.

1 1. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,
2 said reclosable bag comprising:
3 a single sheet of web material having first, second, third, and fourth edges wherein
4 said first and second edges are respectively located opposite each other in said single
5 sheet of web material and said third and fourth edges are respectively located opposite
6 each other in said single sheet of web material, said single sheet of web material
7 comprising a fold located therein intermediate said first and second edges of said single
8 sheet of web material to define two opposite sides of said reclosable bag, said single sheet
9 of web material also having two areas of structural weakness that are respectively located
10 on opposite sides of said fold, said first and second edges of said single sheet of web
11 material being located adjacent each other to define an opening therebetween which is
12 distally located with respect to said fold; and
13 a reclosable fastener structure having first and second opposite ends and
14 comprising two releasably engageable tracks each having a skirt structure of skirt web
15 material extending therefrom, said reclosable fastener structure being located in said fold

with said skirt structures respectively extending toward said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material; said skirt structures each including a distal margin; wherein said reclosable fastener structure has a notch located at a corner at each of said first and second ends, said notches defining where a corner portion of said reclosable fastener structure that includes an end portion of said releasably engageable tracks has been removed, and wherein the periphery of said notches has been sealed; said distal margins of said skirt structures being respectively coupled to said web material on said opposite sides of said reclosable bag at opposed locations which are respectively located between said areas of structural weakness and said opening; said ~~releasable~~ releasably engageable tracks of said reclosable fastener structure extending past said areas of structural weakness and into said fold structure; said two opposite sides of said reclosable bag being sealed at said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material to define sides of said reclosable bag, said reclosable bag being capable of being filled with at least one food product through said opening intermediate said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material, following which said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material are sealed together to enclose the at least one food product inside said reclosable bag.

2. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein the skirt web material is integral to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claims 3-5 (Cancelled).

1 6. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said web
2 material of said reclosable bag is substantially comprised of a sheet of a parent film
3 material having predetermined dimensions.

1 7. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 6, wherein the areas
2 of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

1 8. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas
2 of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of
3 web material.

1 9. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 8, wherein the
2 predetermined dimension is width.

Claims 10-13 (Cancelled).

1 14. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas
2 of structural weakness extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web
3 material in a predetermined pattern.

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

- 1 16. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas
2 of structural weakness comprise scoring.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).

- 1 18. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said sheet
2 of web material is comprised of a multiple laminate film.

- 1 19. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 18, wherein said
2 multiple laminate film includes at least one layer of material comprising a tear path.

Claim 20-74 (Cancelled).

- 1 75. (Currently Amended) A pre-packaged cheese bag, said pre-packaged cheese bag
2 comprising:

3 a single sheet of web material having first and second pairs of opposite edges, said
4 first pair of opposite edges being located adjacent each other to define a bottom of said
5 bag, a fold structure located midway between said first pair of opposite edges in said
6 single sheet of web material defining a top of said bag with said second pair of opposite
7 edges respectively defining two opposite sides of said bag, two predetermined tear areas

8 being located essentially parallel to and on opposite sides of said fold structure, an
9 opening being defined between said first pair of opposite edges;
10 a reclosable fastener structure having first and second opposite ends and including
11 two releasably engageable fastener tracks each having a skirt structure of skirt web
12 material extending therefrom, said skirt structures each including a distal margin, said
13 reclosable fastener structure having a notch located at a corner at each of said first and
14 second ends, said notches defining where a corner portion of said reclosable fastener
15 structure that includes an end portion of said engageable fastener tracks has been
16 removed, and wherein the periphery of said notches has been sealed, said distal margins
17 of said skirt structures being respectively coupled to said web material on said opposite
18 sides of said bag at predetermined locations on the sides of said bag which are located
19 intermediate said predetermined tear areas and said first pair of opposite edges;
20 wherein said fastener tracks extend above said tear areas into said fold structure;
21 said two opposite sides of said bag being respectively sealed at said first and second
22 edges to define sides of said bag, said pre-packaged cheese bag being filled with at least
23 one cheese through said opening between said first pair of opposite edges of said sheet of
24 web material, following which said first pair of opposite edges of said sheet of web
25 material are sealed together to enclose the at least one cheese inside said bag.

Claims 76-78 (Cancelled).

- 1 79. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,
2 wherein said skirt web material is integral to said reclosable fastener structure.

Claims 80-81 (Cancelled).

- 1 82. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,
2 wherein said web material of said pre-packaged bag is substantially comprised of a sheet
3 of a parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

- 1 83. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,
2 wherein said two predetermined tear areas comprise two areas of structural weakness and
3 wherein said fold structure is located between and defined by said two areas of structural
4 weakness.

- 1 84. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 83,
2 wherein said areas of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

- 1 85. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 83,
2 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined
3 dimension of said sheet of web material.

- 1 86. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 85,
2 wherein said predetermined dimension is width.

Claims 87-92 (Cancelled).

- 1 93. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,
2 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise scoring.

Claims 94-103 (Cancelled).

- 1 104. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,
2 said reclosable bag comprising:
3 a single rectangular sheet of web material having first, second, third, and fourth
4 edges, said sheet of web material having a fold structure located midway between said
5 first and second edges and two areas of structural weakness which are located in said
6 sheet of web material on opposite sides of said fold structure, said fold structure
7 separating said sheet of web material into front and back sides of said reclosable bag, said
8 first and second edges being located adjacent each other to define an opening
9 therebetween which opening is distally located with respect to said fold;
10 a reclosable fastener structure having first and second opposite ends and having
11 two releasably engageable fastener halves each having a skirt structure of skirt web

12 material extending therefrom, said skirt structures each having a distal margin, said
13 reclosable fastener structure having a notch located at a corner at each of said first and
14 second ends, said notches defining where a corner portion of said reclosable fastener
15 structure that includes an end portion of said engageable fastener tracks has been
16 removed, and wherein the periphery of said notches has been sealed, wherein said distal
17 margin of said skirt structure of one of said fastener halves is coupled to said web
18 material on said front side of said reclosable bag between the one of said areas of
19 structural weakness on said front side of said reclosable bag and said opening, and
20 wherein said distal margin of said skirt structure of the other of said fastener halves is
21 coupled to said web material on said back side of said reclosable bag between the one of
22 said areas of structural weakness on said back side of said reclosable bag and said
23 opening;
24 wherein said fastener halves of said reclosable fastener structure are located above said
25 areas of structural weakness and within said fold structure;
26 said front and back sides of said reclosable bag being sealed at said first and second
27 edges, said reclosable bag being capable of being filled with at least one food product
28 through said opening between said first and second edges, following which said first and
29 second edges are sealed together to enclose the at least one food product inside said
30 reclosable bag.

Claims 105-106 (Cancelled).

107. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 104, wherein said areas of structural weakness define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off portion being capable of being removed by tearing along said areas of structural weakness.

108. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 107, wherein at least a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material when said tear off portion has been removed therefrom.

109. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 107, wherein said fastener halves extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material when said tear off portion has been removed therefrom.

110. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas of structural weakness define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off portion being capable of being removed by tearing along said areas of structural weakness.

111. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 110, wherein at least a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extends beyond the portions of said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion has been removed therefrom.

1 112. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 110, wherein said
2 releasably engageable tracks of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the
3 portions of said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion
4 has been removed therefrom.

113.-121. (Cancelled).

1 122. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 75, wherein said
2 predetermined tear areas define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off
3 portion being capable of being removed by tearing along said predetermined tear areas.

1 123. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 122, wherein at least
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the portions of
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion has been
4 removed therefrom.

1 124. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 122, wherein said
2 fastener tracks extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material opposite said
3 opening when said tear off portion has been removed therefrom.

1 125. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,
2 said reclosable bag comprising:

3 a single sheet of web material having a centrally located fold separating said sheet
4 of web material into a front panel and a rear panel;

5 a said front panel having a top, a bottom, and sides;

6 a said rear panel having a top, a bottom, and sides, said tops of said front and rear panels
7 coinciding at said fold, said sides of said front and rear panels being coupled together, an
8 opening being located between said bottoms of said front and rear panels;

9 an area of structural weakness located in each of said front and rear panels below
10 said tops of said front and rear panels and extending between at least a substantial portion
11 of said sides of said front and rear panels, the portion of said sheet of web material
12 located intermediate said areas of structural weakness forming a tear off portion; and

13 a reclosable fastener assembly having first and second opposite ends and
14 extending between said sides of said front and rear panels and comprising first and
15 second interlockable fastener tracks each having a skirt structure of skirt web material
16 extending downwardly therefrom, said skirt structures each including a distal portion,
17 said reclosable fastener assembly having a notch located at a corner at each of said first
18 and second ends, said notches defining where a corner portion of said reclosable fastener
19 assembly that includes an end portion of said first and second interlockable fastener
20 tracks has been removed, and wherein the periphery of said notches has been sealed, said

21 distal portion of said skirt structure of said first fastener track being oriented toward said
22 opening and being coupled to said front panel below said area of structural weakness
23 located in said front panel, said distal portion of said skirt structure of said second
24 fastener track being oriented toward said opening and being coupled to said rear panel
25 below said area of structural weakness located in said rear panel;
26 wherein ~~at least a substantial portion of the lengths of~~ said first and second interlockable
27 fastener tracks of said reclosable fastener assembly ~~which extend between said sides of~~
28 ~~said front and rear panels~~ extend completely above said areas of structural weakness, and
29 wherein said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one food product
30 through said opening.

1 126. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said tear
2 off portion is capable of being removed by tearing along said areas of structural
3 weakness.

1 127. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 126, wherein at least
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extends beyond the portions of
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion has been
4 removed therefrom.

1 128. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 126, wherein said
2 releasably engageable tracks of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the
3 portions of said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion
4 has been removed therefrom.

129. (Cancelled).

1 130. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 fold is located intermediate said areas of structural weakness.

1 131. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 areas of structural weakness comprise a hermetic seal.

1 132. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein at least
2 a substantial portion of said areas of structural weakness extend in a direction which is
3 generally parallel to said first and second interlockable fastener tracks.

1 133. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 distal portions of said skirt structures of said first and second fastener tracks are
3 releasably coupled to each other, thereby forming a peelable hermetic seal.

1 134. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 areas of structural weakness are integral to said web material.

1 135. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 sheet of web material comprises a multiple laminate film.

1 136. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 135, wherein said
2 multiple laminate film comprises at least one layer of material comprising said two areas
3 of structural weakness.

1 137. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein areas of
2 structural weakness comprise perforations.

1 138. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein areas of
2 structural weakness comprise microperforations.

1 139. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein areas of
2 structural weakness comprise scoring.

1 140. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, additionally
2 comprising:
3 at least one tear tape structure coupled to said web material and adjacent to at least
4 one of said areas of structural weakness.

1 141. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, additionally
2 comprising:
3 notches in said sides of said front and rear panels which are located adjacent
4 opposite ends of said areas of structural weakness.

1 142. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 143, wherein opposite
2 ends of said first and second fastener tracks respectively located at sides of said front and
3 rear panels are sealed together, thereby retaining said slider thereupon.

1 143. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, additionally
2 comprising a slider that is moveable on said first and second fastener tracks between
3 opposite ends of said first and second fastener tracks to selectively engage said tracks
4 together and disengage said first and second fastener tracks, thereby respectively closing
5 and opening said reclosable bag.

1 144. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,
2 said reclosable bag comprising:

3 a single sheet of web material having first, second, third and fourth edges and
4 including a fold structure which is centrally located therein midway between said first
5 and second edges which fold structure separates said sheet of web material into front and
6 rear sides of said reclosable bag, two predetermined tear areas being located in said sheet
7 of web material on opposite sides of said fold structure and defining a tear off hood
8 portion which is located intermediate said two predetermined tear areas, an opening being
9 defined between said first and second edges; and

10 a reclosable fastener structure having first and second opposite ends and including
11 two releasably engageable fastener ~~tracks~~ halves each having an integral skirt structure of
12 skirt web material extending from a bottom side thereof, said integral skirt structures each
13 having a distal margin, said reclosable fastener structure having a notch located at a
14 corner at each of said first and second ends, said notches defining where a corner portion
15 of said reclosable fastener structure that includes an end portion of said fastener halves
16 has been removed, and wherein the periphery of said notches has been sealed, wherein
17 said distal margin of said integral skirt structure of one of said fastener halves is oriented
18 toward said opening and coupled to said web material between the one of said tear areas
19 and said opening on said front side of said reclosable bag, and wherein said distal margin
20 of said integral skirt structure of the other of said fastener halves is oriented toward said

21 opening and coupled to said web material between the other of said tear areas and said
22 opening on said rear side of said reclosable bag;
23 wherein ~~at least a substantial portion of~~ said fastener ~~tracks~~ halves extend entirely above
24 said areas of structural weakness into said tear off hood portion;
25 wherein said front and rear sides of said reclosable bag are sealed at said third and fourth
26 edges;
27 wherein said tear off hood portion is capable of being removed by tearing along said
28 areas of structural weakness; and
29 wherein said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one food product
30 through said opening between said first and second edges of said sheet of web material,
31 following which said between said first and second edges are sealed together to enclose
32 the at least one food product inside said reclosable bag.

1 145. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 144, wherein said
2 hood is capable of being removed by tearing along said tear areas.

1 146. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 145, wherein at least
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extends beyond the portions of
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off hood has been
4 removed therefrom.

- 1 147. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 145, wherein said
- 2 fastener tracks extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material opposite said
- 3 opening when said tear off hood has been removed therefrom.